

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the First Essex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2002.

Residents of First Essex Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2002, there were 124,539 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (456) of these admissions reside in the First Essex Representative District. 5% (23) of admissions from the First Essex Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2002, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the First Essex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 70% were male and 30% were female.
- 50% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 95% were white non-Latino, 1% were black non-Latino, 3% were Latino, and 1% were other racial categories.
- 60% were never married, 14% were married, and 27% reported not to be married now.
- 24% had less than high school education, 52% completed high school, and 24% had more than high school education.
- 42% were employed.
- 4% were homeless.
- 34% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the First Essex Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2002					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	52%	34%	8%	1%	1%
State	45%	37%	6%	4%	3%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2							
Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2002							
First Essex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	405	350	104	80	43	71	52
FY '96	420	374	129	78	74	81	66
FY '97	450	362	135	57	32	113	91
FY '98	464	382	160	106	47	119	90
FY '99	479	369	137	126	79	194	142
FY '00	469	345	114	88	54	185	144
FY '01	467	342	136	98	40	136	103
FY '02	456	304	102	71	22	164	126